

**PATENT APPLICATION**

**IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE**

In re application of

Docket No: Q79247

Yoshihisa USAMI

Appln. No.: 10/749,380

Group Art Unit: 2627

Confirmation No.: 9140

Examiner: Parul H. GUPTA

Filed: January 2, 2004

For: SIGNAL OUTPUT METHOD AND OPTICAL INFORMATION RECORDING  
MEDIUM

**INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT**  
**UNDER 37 C.F.R. §§ 1.97 and 1.98**

**MAIL STOP AMENDMENT**

Commissioner for Patents

P.O. Box 1450

Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

In accordance with the duty of disclosure under 37 C.F.R. § 1.56, Applicant hereby notifies the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office of the documents which are listed on the attached PTO/SB/08 A & B (modified) form and/or listed herein and which the Examiner may deem material to patentability of the claims of the above-identified application.

One copy of each of the listed documents is submitted herewith, except for the following: U.S. patents and/or U.S. patent publications; and co-pending non-provisional U.S. applications filed after June 30, 2003.

The present Information Disclosure Statement is being filed after either a Final Office Action, Notice of Allowance, or an action that otherwise closes prosecution in the application

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(whichever is earlier), but before payment of the Issue Fee, and therefore Applicant authorizes the USPTO to charge the fee of \$180.00 under 37 C.F.R. § 1.17(p), to Deposit Account No. 19-4880 via the EFS payment screen. Applicant herewith submits a Statement Under 37 C.F.R. § 1.97(e).

In compliance with the concise explanation requirement under 37 C.F.R. § 1.98(a)(3) for foreign language documents, Applicant encloses herewith a copy of a Communication from a foreign patent office in a counterpart application citing such documents, together with an English-language version (if not already included) of at least that portion of the Communication indicating the degree of relevance found by the foreign patent office.

In compliance with the concise explanation requirement under 37 C.F.R. § 1.98(a)(3) for foreign language documents, Applicant submits an English language Abstract for Japanese Patent Application Laid-Open 2000-57571.

Applicant notes that JP 2002-150563 cited in the Communication was previously disclosed to the USPTO in an Information Disclosure Statement filed January 2, 2004, and therefore is not being disclosed again.

The submission of the listed documents is not intended as an admission that any such document constitutes prior art against the claims of the present application. Applicant does not waive any right to take any action that would be appropriate to antedate or otherwise remove any listed document as a competent reference against the claims of the present application.

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The USPTO is directed and authorized to charge all required fees, except for the Issue Fee and the Publication Fee, to Deposit Account No. 19-4880. Please also credit any overpayments to said Deposit Account. A duplicate copy of this paper is attached.

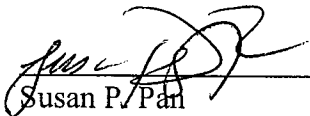
Respectfully submitted,

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WASHINGTON OFFICE

**23373**

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